

scribe ; but I should not be in the least surprised if the genera *MacAndrewia*, *Myliusia*, and *Dactylocalyx* should all prove to be a peculiar family of zoophytes rather than sponges. If these bodies are sponges, they will form a family in that group, which may be named *MacAndrewiadæ*, characterized by the peculiar form and structure of the axis, the distinctness of the bark, and the position of the oscules or cells.

The structure of the base of *Dactylocalyx* and of the spicula which are found in the interspaces of the network are figured by Mr. Quekett in his 'Lecture on Histology.'

I have named this genus after Christlob Mylius, who first described the curious zoophyte since called *Umbellularia grænlandica* ; and I think that any one who reads his simple and plain account of the animal in his letter to Haller, and the account of the same animal given by John Ellis in his work on Corallines, will be satisfied that the latter was not very liberal in his praise towards his contemporary. There might have been reasons why he did not mention the name of Mylius, but I cannot conceive why those of Collinson and Dunze should have been omitted.

It is much to be regretted that nothing is known as to what became of the two specimens of this animal described by Mylius and Ellis, and that no other specimen has been found since that period, now more than a century ago.

## 2. ON SOME NEW OR LITTLE-KNOWN BIRDS FROM THE RIO NAPO.

By PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A., SECRETARY TO THE SOCIETY.

Among some birds lately received from the Rio Napo, and kindly submitted to my inspection by M. Verreaux of Paris, are several species not included in the series from the same locality which I had the pleasure of bringing before the notice of the Society last year \*. To these I now beg leave to call the Society's attention, some of them appearing to be new to science, and others, although already described, to be of rare occurrence.

1. *BASILEUTERUS NIGRI-CRISTATUS* (Lafr.).—*Myiothiolytis nigri-cristata*, Bp. Consp. p. 311.

2. *DIGLOSSA ATERRIMA*, Lafr. Rev. Zool. 1846. p. 319.

3. *CALLISTE RUFIGULARIS*, Sclater, Mon. Call. pl. 13.

The occurrence of this species on the eastern side of the Andes is certainly singular, as M. Bourcier obtained his specimens at Calacali, on the western side of the great range.

4. *CALLISTE CHRYSOTIS*, DuBus ; Sclater, Mon. Call. pl. 43.

\* See P. Z. S. 1858, p. 59.

5. *CALLISTE CYANOTIS*, Slater, P. Z. S. 1859, p. 294.

A specimen in more perfect plumage than the bird which I originally described from, but unmistakably recognizable as belonging to the same rare species. Its nearest ally is certainly *Calliste labradorides* (Mon. of *Calliste*, pl. ), from which, however, it is easily distinguishable by the black sides of the head and well-defined superciliary stripe.

6. *BUARREMON CASTANEICEPS*, sp. nov.

*Saturate oleagineus, subtus vix dilutior : remigibus et rectricibus nigricanti-fuscis : pileo castaneo, lateribus capitis cum gula nigricanti-cinereis : rostri nigricanti-plumbei basi pallida ; pedibus nigris.*

Long. tota 6·5, alæ 3·1, caudæ 2·6.

But one example of this *Buarremon* was in the collection. It may be arranged next to *B. rufinuchus* and *B. latinuchus*, from which, however, it is easily distinguished by its general deep olive colouring.

7. *BUARREMON ASSIMILIS* (Lafr.).

Agrees with New Granadian specimens.

8. *GRALLARIA NUCHALIS*. sp. nov.

*Saturate brunnescenti-oleaginea, pileo rufescentiore, nucha et regione post-oculari clare castaneis : subtus nigricanti-schistacea : rostro et pedibus nigris.*

Long. tota 7·5, alæ 4·5, caudæ 2·1, rostri a rictu 1·2 ; tarsi 2·15.

This bird is a long-legged *Grallaria* in structure, though in plumage it rather resembles the different species of the allied genus *Formicarius*. I have never seen but this one example, now in my collection.

9. *PIPREOLA CHLOROLEPIDOTA*, Sw. An. in Men. p. 357.

This bird agrees so well with Swainson's description, that I have no hesitation in recognizing it as belonging to his species. It is a female of one of the beautiful green Cotingas of the genus *Euchlornis* or *Pyrhorrhynchus*, as I had always supposed was likely to be the case\*. It is *probably* the female of *Euchlornis sclateri*, Cornalia (Contr. Orn. 1852, p. 133. pl. 4), which is from this same country ; but I am not yet clear upon this point. Its identification is of importance, as it proves that the generic name *Pipreola* should be used for this group, in place of *Euchlornis* or *Pyrhorrhynchus*, established many years subsequently.

\* Annals of Natural History, June 1856.

3. ON SOME HYBRID DUCKS BRED IN THE SOCIETY'S GARDENS.  
 BY PHILIP LUTLEY SCLATER, M.A., SECRETARY TO THE  
 SOCIETY.

(Aves, Pl. CLVIII.)

I have the pleasure of exhibiting Mr. Wolf's drawing of both sexes of a Hybrid Duck bred this season in the Society's Gardens, between a male of the Common Sheldrake (*Tadorna vulpanser*) and a female of the White-fronted Sheldrake or Mountain Goose of Southern Africa (*Casarca cana*). The old female *Casarca* was acquired by the Society at the sale of the late Lord Derby's collection in 1851. She has on three previous occasions bred in the Gardens: in the first instance with an Indian male of the Ruddy Sheldrake (*Casarca rutila*), and subsequently twice with one of the male hybrids produced by her union with the Ruddy Sheldrake.

Upon being placed this spring in a small pond in company with a pair of the Common Sheldrake, she so persecuted the male with her attentions that she succeeded in persuading him to tread her, though in the society of his proper mate. The result was that she laid fertile eggs, and hatched and successfully reared three strong hybrid birds (Pl. CLVIII.), two of which appear to be males, and one a female. They present a curious combination of the colours of the two parents, though the dusky-grey flanks seem scarcely deducible from either. The female has the bill black; in the male it is flesh-coloured at the base, as in the male parent. The female also takes rather after her mother's likeness, in possessing white round the beak and round the eye. The black hood in both sexes is derived from the male parent.

In the Gardens this year we have also bred two other broods of Hybrid Ducks. One of these was the produce of a male Dusky Duck (*Anas obscura*), and a cross-bred female between the Dusky Duck and the Wild Duck. The other was the issue, as we believe, of parents themselves *both* cross-bred, and both originating from hybridism between the Tufted Duck (*Fuligula cristata*) and the White-eyed (*Nyroca leucophthalma*). But, as there is a male pure-bred White-eyed Duck in the same pond, we cannot be quite certain on this point.

During the next season we hope to take such measures as will put to test in the case of the *Anatidæ*, a favourite *dictum* of naturalists, and one which has recently met the approval of a high authority\* upon such matters, that "it is difficult, perhaps impossible, to bring forward one case of the hybrid offspring of two animals *clearly distinct* being themselves perfectly fertile."

\* Darwin, "On the Origin of Species," p. 26.